

23rd March 1964]

[Mr. Speaker]

very useful to clarify the position. It will also enable the Government to make a proper investigation to find out the cause of the mischief. Further, Members will have an opportunity to discuss the matter during the discussion on the Appropriation Bill, I, therefore, withhold my consent to this adjournment motion.

### III.—CALLING ATTENTION TO HARDSHIPS IN GETTING OWNERSHIP CERTIFICATES FOR INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC PUMP SETS IN NORTH ARCOT DISTRICT.

புலவர் கா. கோவிந்தன்: கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, வட ஆற்காடு மாவட்டத்தில் விவசாய காரியங்களுக்கு மின்சார பம்பு செட்டுகள் நிறுவுவதற்காக “உரிமை சான்றிதழ்கள்” பெறுவதில் விவசாயிகள் அடையும் கஷ்டங்கள் பற்றி அவசர பொது முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த விஷயத்தை கனம் தொழில் அமைச்சர் அவர்களின் கவனத்திற்கு கொண்டு வருகிறேன்.

SRI A. ARUMUGAM: Sir, I wish to call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Industries to a matter of urgent public importance, viz., hardships experienced by ryots in getting ownership certificates for installing electric pump sets for agricultural purposes in North Arcot district.

\* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Madras State Electricity Board incurs large capital expenditure every year for rural electrification. Before incurring such expenditure, the prospective consumers are required to enter into agreement with the Board for taking supply for agricultural purposes for a particular load and for a specified period. In order to ensure that the expenditure incurred by the Board does not result in loss, it is necessary that the agreements are executed by the lawful and registered owners of the lands and wells. For this purpose, ownership certificates are obtained from the officials of the Revenue Department.

2. Prior to August 1963, the ownership certificates issued by the Village Officers were being accepted by the field officers of the Madras State Electricity Board. Some of the certificates furnished by the Karnams were, however, found to be erroneous. In order to ensure that the certificates are free from defects, the State Electricity Board has issued instructions to the effect that ownership certificates issued by the Village Officials should be countersigned by Deputy Tahsildar or Tahsildars. The Electricity Board has no other alternative means to ensure that agreements are entered into with the lawful and registered owners in the revenue accounts. There is of course a time lag between canvassing of a scheme and the actual execution of the agreement, and the certificate countersigned by the Deputy Tahsildar is insisted upon only at the time of execution of the agreement. The Electricity Board has now requested that suitable instructions may be issued to the District Collectors regarding the issue of ownership certificates duly countersigned by the Deputy Tahsildars or Tahsildars. Instructions have been issued by the Government also accordingly to the Revenue staff through the Board of Revenue.